Name:

Date:

Class:

*To Kill a Mockingbird*

FINAL ESSAY EXAM

**Directions**

Instead of a traditional exam, you will write a four-paragraph essay that answers **ONE** of three questions about *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Your essay should include one introduction, two body paragraphs, and one conclusion. Each body paragraph must have at least **TWO** pieces of **specific** evidence to support your main ideas. This could include quotes or specific events; page numbers are required regardless.

This exam consists of two parts, an outline and a draft. You **must** complete both in order to receive all available points.

**CHOOSE ONE of the questions below to answer:**

**Option #1:** In what ways did Scout **OR** Jem (pick one) change or mature as characters over the course of the novel? Think about the **people** and **events** that helped change or develop their behaviors and perspectives on life in Maycomb.

**Option #2:** What are two values or messages that Atticus stands for in *To Kill a Mockingbird*? Describe how his actions, beliefs, and/or words demonstrate his commitment to these values.

**Option #3:** Who was the most important minor character in *To Kill a Mockingbird* and why? (A “minor character” is any character outside of Atticus, Scout, Jem, and Dill.)

**Outline for Essay**

**PARAGRAPH I: Introduction**

|  |
| --- |
| ***LEAD*** *(Grab the reader’s attention using a quote, a bold statement, a snapshot character, simile, metaphor, etc.)* |
| ***CONNECTION*** *(Explain why you started with that lead – how does it connect or relate to the thesis statement?)* |
| ***Thesis Statement*** *(In a sentence, what is this essay really about? Your thesis should answer the question being asked and give the reader an idea of what to expect when reading the essay.)* |

**PARAGRAPH II: BODY PARAGRAPH #1**

|  |
| --- |
| TOPIC SENTENCE |

* EVIDENCE #1:
* EVIDENCE #2:

\*\*Remember: You will need to include **tell-me-even-more** sentences when you write this essay so you can **explain how your evidence proves your argument.**

**PARAGRAPH III: BODY PARAGRAPH #2**

|  |
| --- |
| TOPIC SENTENCE |

* EVIDENCE #1:
* EVIDENCE #2:

\*\*Remember: You will need to include **tell-me-even-more** sentences when you write this essay so you can **explain how your evidence proves your argument.**

**PARAGRAPH #4: CONCLUSION**

|  |
| --- |
| *Wrap up your ideas and arguments in 2-3 sentences.* |

**RUBRIC FOR *TKAM* FINAL ESSAY EXAM**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Excellent | Good | Needs Improvement | Needs a lot of improvement or is missing |
| You completed the outline for the essay properly so you were well prepared for the exam. | 5 | 4 | 3.5 | 2 (or lower) |
| You wrote a proper introduction, including a lead, a connection, and a thesis statement. | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 (or lower) |
| You begin each body paragraph with a clear topic sentence that relates to the thesis statement and indicates the main idea of the paragraph. | 4 | 3.5 | 3 | 2 (or lower) |
| You included two pieces of specific, relevant evidence (i.e. quotes or specific events from the text, with page numbers) in each body paragraph (four pieces total) to back up your arguments. | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 (or lower) |
| You explained each piece of evidence clearly and thoroughly using tell-me-even-more sentences. | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 (or lower) |
| You wrapped up the main idea in each body paragraph with a conclusion sentence. | 2 | 1.5 | 1 | 0 |
| Your conclusion summarizes the ideas you presented in the essay in a succinct and fresh way. | 3 | 2.5 | 2 | 1 (or lower) |
| You organized the essay in a logical way, using the structures we have discussed in class to create a clear, coherent essay. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 (or lower) |
| You answered all parts of the prompt thoroughly and completely and displayed a keen understanding of *To Kill a Mockingbird.* | 5 | 4 | 3.5 | 3 (or lower) |
| You completed the essay with few, if any, grammar, spelling, or mechanical mistakes. | 5 | 4 | 3.5 | 3 (or lower) |

**Points lost for missing parts, disruptive or inappropriate behavior during the test, etc.? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/50 points**